



An Event Completion Report

On

“Sustaining Nutrition and Health Interventions at Local Level” Workshops”

“कुपोषणको चक्कर जीवनभरको ठक्कर”

स्थानिय तहमा एकीकृत स्वास्थ्य तथा पोषण
कार्यक्रमको दीगोपना सुनिश्चितता कार्यशाला गोष्ठी

(मिति : पौष १३-१४, २०७६ तदनुसार डिसेम्बर २९-३०, २०१९)

स्थान : राजपुर गाँउपालिका, दाङ



District Office: Ghorahi, Dang

Date: - 29th to 30th December 2019

I Introduction

1.1 Background

The *Suaahara II* Good Nutrition Program (2016-2021) aims to improve the nutritional status of women and children in 40 under-served rural districts of Nepal. This will be achieved through multi-sector consortium and partnerships with the government of Nepal (GON), the private sector, and other United States Government (USG)-funded projects in the overlapping districts.

Among the four intermediate results (IR) of Suaahara-II, IR 4 focuses on **ACCELERATED ROLLOUT OF MSNP THROUGH STRENGTHENED LOCAL GOVERNANCE**. To support Output 4.3 under IR 4 i.e. "KTM team, PC-Province Focal Points and technical officers lead with support from resource persons will roll out "Sustaining nutrition and health interventions at local level" workshops at municipal-level to advocate for nutrition and guide local-level action plans for improved/sustained implementation of both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities" we conducted Two days workshop on "Sustaining nutrition and health interventions at local level" at Rajpur rural municipality.

1.2 Objective of activity

- To ensure the roles of elected bodies for the development of health and nutrition and make commitment for its sustainability.
- To review the multi sector nutrition practices on local level.
- To endorse innovative practices on nutrition and made commitment for regularization.

II Activities Done

2.1 Preparatory Activities

- The objective of this workshop was to improve coordination between sectors and between GoN and MSNP stakeholders. So, the date and time were fixed for the workshop with common understanding with representatives and sector heads. A planning meeting for the workshop was held Rajpur municipality, Dang on 23th Dec, 2019 with the presence district and PNGO team. The agenda, date, venue of the orientation was finalized on that meeting.
- The list of participants and their invitation was jointly decided by Palikas and PNGO team. Invitation to all participants was done by Palika's CAO while invitation to I/NGOs was done by PNGO and district team
- The presentation to be done on the workshop was prepared by respective thematic officers with the close coordination of Palikas sector heads.
- Required logistics were all managed beforehand by PNGO and district team.

2.2 Proceeding Activities

2.2.1 Opening Session

This workshop is the sign of the growing recognition of the importance and linkages between nutrition and sustainability. We would like to thank the Rajpur rural municipality, KTM and district team, EDPs including PNGO team to bring us together for sustainability of nutrition because it is an important issue which links every sector. Sustainability workshop on nutrition formally started with the presence of chairperson, deputy chairperson, chief administrative officer, ward chairpersons, sector heads and I/NGO representatives. Health coordinator was the MC of the program who preceded the inaugural program by airing national anthem. Introduction of the participants was done before followed the technical session.



Elected bodies are participating on inaugural program of nutrition sustainability workshop

2.2.2 Technical Session

Workshop on "Sustaining nutrition and health interventions at local level" was organized by local implementing partner Backward Society Education BASE on 29th to 30th Dec 2019. It was held at the conference hall of community forest ward no 6 Rajpur Gangadi. It was possible with the close coordination and collaboration of Rajpur rural municipality district and PNGO team. The workshop was an opportunity to inform the multi sector nutrition plan and its endorsement and establishment in community. The workshop included technical session on endorsement of MSNP by local government. The technical session started with remarkable, motivational facilitation of Bishowraman Neupane (MSNP Director) He showed the picture of Vision through power point and uttered the a lot of statements for motivation in questionnaire module like " What do you see ? What do you do and want to do? We know, Simple and single-nutrient and standard solutions are not possible. We cannot avoid complexity and must learn together how to address it. People should be at the centre of rights-based development strategies, which systematically integrate gender and give youth the active role societies need. It is urgent to analyze, understand and assess inter-connections between technical areas such as local resources management, conservation of local diverse food, its economic value for health and there is much to learn from traditional and local food systems in terms of sustainability. He attempted to motivate elected bodies and Gov.staffs by telling a lot of example, motivational story so that they could change their thinking, working modality in office premises and do behave their selves. He quoted "While you change the life of people, community which really give you heaven pleasure. So, start from today to do something, search the quality and spread it everywhere which bring the happiness of community people then you will feel greatness yourselves. This helped the participants to understand the working framework of Suaahara-II and the area of collaboration between government and non-governmental bodies at different levels.



MSNP director facilitating on nutrition sustainability workshop

Next session proceeded to review the multi sector data to see the integration in nutrition. Subject heads of health and nutrition, agriculture and livestock, Education etc were presented key achievements, challenges and way forward for coming days. After over presentation, group work discussion occurred. Elected bodies, subject focal person, other participants were actively participated on group work and planned for semi annually. To get the better result, they have made specific plan with timeline which are as follows.

- Establish vegetable collection centre within six month from palika.
- Appoint one ward one technician from ward office within coming six month.
- Mobilization of LRP for improved vegetable gardening and promotes semi intensive poultry rearing practices in community level.
- Develop model farmer in each ward focusing on climate smart agriculture farming.
- Establish poultry resource centre in each wards.
- One house one fruits saplings policy will be followed.

Institutional set-up and procedures have to be revisited accordingly from the local level upward. Priority should be given to policy dialogue and coherence, as well joint action-learning in a multidisciplinary context. Practice-based evidence, knowledge management and networking are essential to operationalize and accelerate the shift towards sustainable nutrition systems and diets, with production and consumption within environmental limits. And basically, we need to re-set our moral compass and reconnection nutrition health with our environment while we plant the seed of change for a sustainable future for nutrition.

2.2.3 Closing Session

At the end of the workshop, Chairperson of Rajpur put his remarks that "we have learnt a lot from Suaahara program and palika has also endorsed it as essential theme. So, our dedication toward nutrition is stepping now and will be stepped regularly. It will be well furnish in coming days incorporating it into policy for its establishment. After lunching it into policy, the nutrition will be set as program which directly link to community people and they will be felt real flavour of nutrition in coming days". He added we, all are appreciated and grateful toward Suaahara program for the successful tenure and expect for Suaahara-III for the support of local government in coming days. '

III Major Outputs

- Altogether 60 people (female=13, male= 47) participated in the Orientation program. Among them 47 were from Palikas and 13 were from non-governmental sector (EDPs)
- Semi annual action plan has been developed with commitment.
- NFSSC meeting at palika level and ward level will be regularized by respective authorities.

IV Positive aspects, challenges/lesson learnt during activity implementation

4.1 Positive aspects:

- All the government and non-governmental partners who are working in Rajpur municipality participated on nutrition sustainability workshop and made commitment to stand at a place for nutrition sustainability.
- Workshop has given synergy to all gov.non gov. workers to strengthen coordination for nutrition establishment in community.
- It would be far better to invite ward secretary in workshop which will help to allocate budget technically in ward level.

4.2 Challenges:

- There are still huge gaps between knowledge and practices in community in the part of nutrition. The root causes are traditional beliefs, illiteracy and some extent of geographical difficulties.
- Capacity enhancement orientation need for elected bodies.

4.3 Recommendation:

- Regular follow up mechanism should be developed at all level to implement and strengthen the nutrition action plan.

VI. Conclusion

Two days workshop on sustaining nutrition and health interventions at Rajpur municipality was successfully accomplished with the active participation of elected bodies, subject leads and other sectoral IPs where participation of 60 people totals.